

S-E-C-R-E-T

13 January 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs
FROM: Chief, FBIS
SUBJECT: Letter of Instruction

GENERAL

1. By means of letter from the Secretary of State to the DCI, the Department of State formally approved the FBIS request that the Mediterranean Bureau be designated an annex of the Consulate General in Nicosia. The Consul General was advised by cable, and was authorized to post an appropriate sign at the bureau after securing agreement from the Governor of Cyprus. [redacted]

50X1

2. In connection with the impending move of the London Bureau wire room to Caversham, USIA London wire section discontinued joint operations with FBIS effective 3 January. Arrangements were also made with the Army Communications Agency for the London Bureau to discontinue relaying attaché traffic. [redacted]

50X1

3. Of 249 items included in the OCI Current Intelligence Digest during the month, 71 (28.5 percent) were based wholly or in part on FBIS sources. [redacted]

50X1

4. The Army completed its current series of Nike test firings on Okinawa. The Okinawa Bureau considers its Nike encroachment problem eased by the Army's announcement of its intention to launch all future practice missiles from the temporary pad at the tip of Bolo Point. [redacted]

50X1

PROPAGANDA ANALYSIS COMMENT [redacted]

50X1

1. Radio Propaganda Reports (Responsible analyst indicated in parentheses)

a. "Soviet Outer-Space Projects and Programming: August-
November 1959," for the Guided Missiles Division, OSI [redacted]

50X1

b. "Development of Attack on 'Right Opportunists' in the
Chinese Communist Party" [redacted]

50X1

2. The sixth Index of Radio Propaganda Reports was issued on 31 December, with reports listed and cross-referenced under subject categories.

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3. Propaganda Analysis Items on the FBIS Wire (Responsible analyst indicated in parentheses)

a. "Denial of a Soviet Nuclear Explosion at Lake Balkhash"

[redacted]

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b. "Renewed Peking Propaganda Attention to U. S. War Preparations in the Taiwan Area" [redacted]

50X1

c. "Moscow Implies AEC Louisiana Explosions Were Nuclear"

[redacted]

50X1

d. "TASS Year-End Review Looks Toward New Moon-Rocket Launching" [redacted]

50X1

4. Statistics concerning Peking propaganda on the CPR's disputes with Indonesia and India were compiled for USIA in support of a USIA/IRI background study.

5. Continuing RPB Special Services

a. Advance copies of RPB publications continued to be forwarded to OCI in support of the latter's special reports for the Director on bloc adherence to the atmosphere of detente. The OCI reports have been converted from biweekly into briefer weekly publications.

b. The Vice President's office was kept apprised, via OO, of the degree of bloc propaganda adherence to the detente associated with Khrushchev's U. S. visit. Copies of TRENDS and SURVEYS were marked and annotated. (The requirement for marked copies has since been withdrawn.)

c. The service to the U. S. delegation at the Geneva nuclear test-ban talks continued. Propaganda-analysis report No. 126 was forwarded to OCI on 11 December for inclusion in the Agency support cable to the delegation.

6. A new and expanded catalogue of Soviet radio and TASS commentators, up-dating the one issued in November 1957, is in process of publication. Copies will be sent to the field in January.

7. Field Support of the Radio Propaganda Branch

a. A useful FYI by the London Bureau on satellite and Yugoslav propaganda treatment of Latin American events for the period 1-15

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December would have been even more useful had it been filed routinely, not "RPB Only." The FYI was of interest to RPB's Latin America analyst, but primarily as a tip-off to a subject that would seem to merit fuller exploration -- that is, whether or not the satellites have demonstrated increased interest in Latin America. Since the FYI simply surveyed a two-week period, describing the current pattern without being able to say whether attention to the hemisphere was appreciably greater than before, it was more publishable as an editor's note in the DAILY REPORT than as an analytic item in the SURVEY. Whatever the ultimate use made of such FYIs, they are always of interest to the Editorial Branch as well as RPB.

b. The Austrian Bureau submitted a survey of Satellite treatment of Stalin's birthday and another on Mao's birthday. The survey on Stalin's birthday was particularly useful and is being incorporated in a Radio Propaganda Report to be issued soon.

c. Editors are reminded that a "summary" is a condensed, not a truncated, version of a broadcast. It should include all the major points of a commentary and must not fail to mention, preferably by quotation, even subordinate points when they may help to establish a propaganda line on an important issue or when they are at variance with an established line. A case in point was a WCB "summary with quotations" of a 5 December Peking home service commentary linked to President Eisenhower's world tour. RPB ordered text of the item and it was discovered that only the first half of the commentary had been summarized in the originally filed version. Among the portions omitted was a discussion of the U. S. attitude toward the Sino-Indian border dispute which should have been quoted.

d. The recurrence of inadequately described items in the Peking commentary lists makes it necessary to remind those responsible for preparing the lists that full descriptions are required for all items which have not been processed. A full description includes a notation of the country or area dealt with, the major theme, and the event to which the commentary is pegged (if applicable). If the commentary deals with more than one major country, area, or theme this should be noted, with an indication of the amount of emphasis placed on each. The words "stresses," "emphasizes," "reviews," "outlines" should be used to denote the major theme or themes of the commentary; such words as "states," "notes," "mentions," "recalls" should be used only to point out significant passages for the analysts' attention.

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EDITORIAL BRANCH COMMENT

1. General

a. Roundups of world radio and press reaction to the President's 11-nation tour, primarily in support of OCI's cables to the President's party, were disseminated daily on the FBIS Wire while the tour was in progress. Copies were relayed to all bureaus for lateral distribution in the field. During the NATO Council and Western summit meetings, texts of key items of reaction were supplied by the bureaus to the American Embassy, Paris, for the Public Affairs Advisor. A review of bloc propaganda on the NATO Council session was wirefiled to Paris. A final roundup summing up assessments of the tour as a whole was published as a supplement to the Daily Report on 29 December, and a brief summary prepared for the White House.

b. The Editorial Branch made a study throughout the month of Daily Report space devoted to radio and press scrutiny. Results indicate a grand total of 6409 pages published, of which 86% was devoted to radio material and 14% to press scrutiny. It was found that 6234 items were published, and that 94% of these were from radio sources. Such statistics will be kept for the next several months to assist FBIS in evaluating efforts and resources being devoted to press scrutiny.

c. Field bureaus frequently fail to follow standard procedures outlined in the Editorial Handbook for flagging copy to specific recipients. Flags have been appearing before the date-time group, after the logograph, and in a variety of other positions.

d. Messages to the Hokkaido Bureau are frequently addressed improperly. The addressee line in the message heading should read TO FBIS CHITOSE JAPAN, not FBIS SAPPORO, or FBIS HOKKAIDO.

e. In view of the broad consumer interest in material related to the test ban question, now under discussion at Geneva, field bureaus are requested to file as separate items, rather than as briefs, all references to underground phenomena--such as earthquakes, earth tremors, volcanic eruptions, tidal waves, and so forth.

f. Whenever possible bureaus should clearly identify speakers and authors of articles in order to insure that statements by important but lesser known officials receive rapid Daily Report handling. The identification should specify the most important

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position held by the individual rather than some ancillary function, but editors must be certain that a job title supplied editorially is still applicable. This procedure applies equally to roundups when mention is made of a personage who may not be immediately known to the general reader.

g. Briefs continue to be too wordy; tighter editing would make the essential facts stand out. Editors should also note that it is possible on occasion to use the brief format for commentary items. For examples see page BB 15, Dec. 3, and BB 26, Dec. 8 USSR/EE Daily Report. When a number of items deal with a continuing low-level story, such as the activities of a visiting delegation, they may be held up and filed as a single brief.

h. Excellent surveys of low-level Soviet regional material continue to be received from the Hokkaido and Mediterranean bureaus. Those not published in the Daily Report receive special distribution to interested consumers. The East Coast Bureau's initiative in filing a survey of Radio Return to the Homeland broadcasts was appreciated. Similar surveys of other special beams and programs may also prove useful.

2. London Bureau

a. In Polish copy "province" and "provincial" should be changed to "voivodship," and "national councils" to "people's councils."

b. In processing radio versions of press articles, greater use should be made of the subslug format when the item in question is taken from one paper or deals with only one topic:

(ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI article on family budgets)

NOT

(Text) ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI carries an interesting article on family budgets.

STAT

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c. Among the many excellent FYI's filed by the bureau. [redacted]
[redacted] on CTK comment on Czech-German relations and [redacted]
[redacted] on Latvian nationalism (page DD 47 Nov. 30 USSR/EE Daily Report)
were particularly well done.

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3. Austrian and German Bureaus

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When supplying press scrutiny additions to broadcast materials, the bureaus should endeavor to clear up indistinct and bracketed passages in copy forwarded to them by the London and Mediterranean bureaus.

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4. Austrian Bureau

a. The bureau's FYI's noting that all available items on Soviet artillery day and on the Moldavian Supreme Soviet session had been filed were appreciated as they helped headquarters plan a meaningful presentation of the material.

b. Items containing many or important figures should be proof-read with special care. Discrepancies between figures in the text and confirming figures may be discovered when the copy is edited, but queries usually cannot be answered by the bureau fast enough to meet publication deadlines. Moldavian Supreme Soviet material was particularly troublesome in this respect.

5. German Bureau

The bureau's practice of cuing Radio Volga material can be expanded. Cues should indicate the length and fully describe the substance of the material in question.

6. Mediterranean Bureau

a. Filed comment from Middle East radios should be restricted to new propaganda lines and significant variations of prevailing lines. Recurring themes can be covered adequately in the Middle East Review.

b. The Daily Report can use all Radio Baghdad press reviews on domestic topics which give any inkling of internal dissension in Iraq.

7. Saigon Bureau

a. The bureau is commended for its resourcefulness in providing excellent and timely coverage of the current policy conflict in Laos between the premier and the CDNI.

b. QUAN DOI NHAN DAN editorial stressing the preeminence of the army's military role attracted much favorable comment from consumers. The detection of "sleepers" of this kind in a mass of routine material reflects an editorial alertness in which the bureau may take pride.

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ENGINEERING

1. Details covering electric wiring, antenna and emergency power installations for the African Project were turned over to Real Estate and Construction Division during the month. Two meetings were held with RE&CD covering briefings and preliminary planning for the handling of construction for the project.

2. The CGS Laboratories have reported that a pre-production model of the short wave multicoupler will be ready for FBIS's observation and laboratory testing in mid-January 1960. To gain delivery time, FBIS will send headquarters engineers to the CGS Laboratories in Connecticut to inspect the available model prior to start of regular production.

3. Arrangements were concluded to send [redacted] Electronic Specialist, to Panama for TDY to assist in wiring the post's electronic systems and overhaul the electronic equipment. (He departed 4 January.)

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4. The West Coast Bureau has received all of its complement of the new magnetic belt recording and transcribing equipment. Installation of this equipment has begun, with first units going into the cruising room. The Bureau has encountered some problems with adjustments on both the recorders and transcribers. Although the problems seem isolated on the recorder, those in the transcriber remain to be solved.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Bureaus are requested to submit requisitions for forms on Form 88 and not to include other supply items on these requisitions.

2. In order to provide better Headquarters' reference, Bureaus are requested to use the same numbering sequence for their teletype parts requisitions as with regular requisitions.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

1. New Employees in FBIS

[redacted]

Assignment

Clerk (Steno)
Field Opr. Staff

STAT

2. Reassignments

[redacted]

From

Editor
Ed. Br.

To

Editor
Okinawa

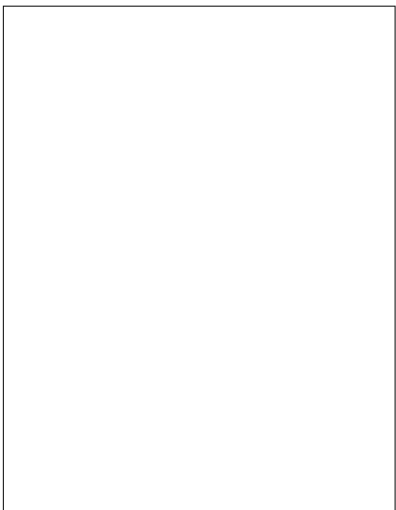
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3. Separations



From

Clerk (Steno)
Field Opr. Staff

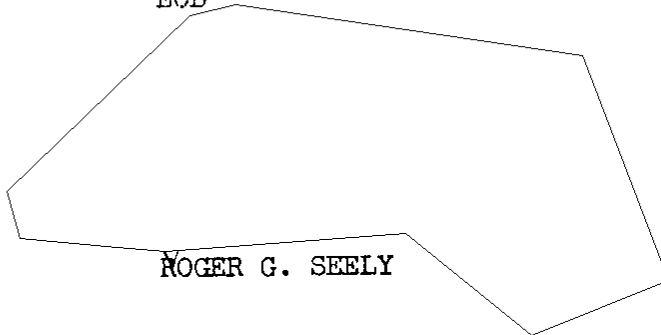
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Watch Officer
ECB

Custodian
ECB

Liaison Off.
Lia. & Ref. Staff

Custodian Retired
ECB



ROGER G. SEELY

STAT

U-N-C-L-A-S-S-I-F-I-E-D